

CONGRESSMAN **JESSE L. JACKSON JR.**
PROUDLY SERVING THE 2nd DISTRICT OF ILLI

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CONGRESSMAN JACKSON SAYS BILL HELPS TO ADDRESS ROOT CAUSE, NOT JUST SYMPTOMS, OF FORECLOSURE CRISIS

Washington, D.C. -- Congressman Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. voted today in support of H.R. 1748, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act of 2009. Jackson praised the measure as "an important step in bringing critical reform and consumer protection to the financial markets and the mortgage lending industry."

Congressman Jackson said, "This bill helps to address a root cause -- not just the symptoms -- of today's devastating economic crisis. The measure stops the kinds of predatory and irresponsible mortgage loan practices that helped to generate, accelerate and exacerbate this financial meltdown."

Specifically, H.R. 1748 makes sure that the mortgage industry follows basic principles of sound lending by: ensuring that borrowers can repay the loans they are sold; prohibiting mortgage lenders from steering borrowers into higher cost loans; and establishing a simple, national

standard for all home loans.

In addition, the bill requires that all mortgage refinancing loans provide a net tangible benefit to consumers; encourages the market to move back toward making fixed-rate, fully documented loans; and protects tenants who rent homes that go into foreclosure.

"This bill is long overdue. It establishes new, common sense rules to prevent abusive lending -- a major factor in the nation's highest home foreclosure rate in 25 years. It will provide people with better mortgages and help to prevent future foreclosures. It will allow more hard-working Americans to keep and stay in their homes."

The Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act builds upon the other consumer protection legislation recently passed by the House, including the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights and the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act.

"We in Congress are ensuring that a financial crisis like the one today, which started with irresponsible subprime lending, never happens again. That marks important progress for the people in the Southland and throughout the country," Jackson concluded.

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